

stool for diagnosis is of interest but far from convincing. The suggested therapy through vaccines, for the intestinal toxemia, seems not above question in view of the recent evidence of the effect of diet on intestinal contents.

Although a great deal of material in this volume is carried over from a former generation, which could be safely omitted, the book is a step in advance, especially as seen in some of the diet lists, and contains facts that are of interest and value to all. The impression is that the new material could have been gathered into a much smaller volume thus making it more valuable and decidedly less expensive.

E. J. B.

#### **Advanced Lessons in Practical Physiology for Students and Practitioners of Medicine.**

By Russell Burton-Opitz, M. D., Ph. D., Associate Professor of Physiology, Columbia University, New York City. Octavo of 238 pages with 123 illustrations. Philadelphia and London: W. B. Saunders Company, 1920. Cloth, \$4 net.

This volume is really the laboratory companion to Burton-Opitz's text-book of physiology. The primal requisite of any laboratory guide is clarity, and this particular note characterizes the volume throughout.

Without being verbose and over technical, each step in the preparation of an experiment is concisely set forth, and in such a manner as to develop in the student that mental attitude which is essential to the proper observation of facts, and inductive correlation of these facts once they are obtained.

The experiments given to exemplify the fundamental principles of respiration and circulation are particularly well selected, as is also the treatment of physiology of the nervous system.

In format the book is well done. Throughout the volume blank pages are inserted so that the student may annotate for himself and put down such data as he deems desirable. Altogether, it is one of the best laboratory manuals that we know of and should receive a well-merited recognition.

R. A. Y.

#### **Physiology and Biochemistry in Modern Medicine.**

By J. J. R. Macleod. 3d ed. 992 pages. Illustrated. St. Louis: C. V. Mosby Company, 1920.

The appearance of the third edition of Macleod's work confirms the already favorable reception, which has been given the book. The growing tendency of medical schools to teach the laboratory courses, with an under-emphasis of the clinical courses, and the lack of proper laboratory training in the older medical schools, has created a definite call—the answer to which is supplied by the author's work.

This volume bridges the chasm between the purely academic sciences, and the practical problems of medicine as found by the practitioner in his every-day work. The newer methods of diagnosis and treatment are continually demanding from the practitioner a well-rounded scientific balance, and it is only by a thorough knowledge of the fundamental principles of biochemistry and physiology that he can justly apply to himself the term "a scientific practitioner." It is by correlating these two factors that the book finds its justification.

Considerable new matter has been added to the third edition, there has been an extensive revision of the section on neurology by Dr. A. C. Redfield. The chapter on respiration is particularly complete and brings the material up to and inclusive of the newer work of Henderson and Haldane. The chapter dealing with the endocrine organs is particularly well written, the experimental evidence is conservatively epitomized, and the gradual drift toward the clinical application of the knowledge thus gleaned is judiciously pointed out. Typographically and structurally, the volume maintains

the high standards that have always been set by Mosby's books. The illustrations are profuse and helpful, the tables, whenever given, are accurately compiled. All in all, the volume is one of the most useful and valuable that a physician can acquire, and no well-balanced working library can afford to be without it.

R. A. Y.

#### **An Epitome of Hydrotherapy, for Physicians, Architects and Nurses.**

By Simon Baruch, M. D., LL. D., Consulting Physician to Knickerbocker and Montefiori Hospitals, Consulting Hydrotherapeutist to Bellevue Hospital, New York City, Formerly Professor of Hydrotherapy, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University. 12mo of 205 pages, illustrated. Philadelphia and London: 1920. W. B. Saunders Company. Cloth, \$2.00 net.

The prominence of the author on hydrotherapeutic matters brings this volume to the fore as the most up-to-date ready reference manual obtainable. The physician who wishes to prescribe hydriatic treatments finds much usable knowledge. The operator who would give these treatments most efficiently will benefit by careful study of the methods therein described. Persons planning or installing hydrotherapeutic equipment will make fewer blunders in first consulting the chapters on the construction and arrangement of this complex and expensive apparatus.

H. L. L.

## **Correspondence**

### **WE HEARTILY AGREE**

January 21, 1921.

To the Editor:

1. We regret the fact that you were unable to accept the article sent to you for publication in the State Journal because, as you inform us, it would take at least a year or more for its publication.

2. It is rather lamentable that those desirous of publishing papers after working on some point of interest that would be of benefit to readers of the Journal should be prevented from doing so because of the extreme limitation of space in the State Journal.

3. Cannot some means be found or devised, such as subscription or the like, to make it possible for the Journal to be at least double its size? This is the only fault that we find with our Journal, which, otherwise, as we know for a fact, is highly considered in the East.

4. Appreciating your attention to this letter and trusting you will take this matter up with the editing committee in order to remedy such a deplorable defect.

Yours very truly,

JAMES EAVES, M.D.

PAUL CAMPICHE, M.D.

560 Sutter Street, San Francisco.

### **VENEREAL DISEASE CONTROL**

Los Angeles, Dec. 21, 1920.

To the Editor:

In your November 1920 issue you have a very excellent article from a scientific technical viewpoint upon, "Status of Venereal Disease Control" (page 399).

There is no question at all about venereal disease being absolutely preventable. Perhaps this question is a good deal like the little doggie braying at the moon; our efforts will be futile, but since we have such excellent prophylactics, why not tell the public about them and use them? After all is said and done, and "Fit to Fight" pictures have been shown and no stone left unturned, the people seem to choose to keep on in the same old way. We can't forget what some of our dear old "Profs." used to say about the sexual instinct being next to the first great law of Nature, that of "self-preservation," and that